

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 *claim 1* 1. An encoder having an input and an output, wherein
2 the input receives a signal, wherein the encoder calculates an
3 entropy of at least a portion of the signal and encodes the
4 signal with the calculated entropy, and wherein the output
5 carries the encoded signal.

1 2. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the signal is an
2 audio signal.

1 3. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the encoder
2 determines entropy according to the following equation:

3

$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

4 wherein the signal is sampled to produce a number N of samples,
5 wherein the samples are placed in bins according to their values,
6 and wherein p_i is determined as the number of samples in bin i
7 divided by N.

1 4. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the entropy is
2 comprised of bits, and wherein each bit is coded by amplitude
3 modulating the signal at a pair of frequencies so as to preserve
4 the entropy of the encoded portion of the signal.

1 5. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the signal is coded
2 with the entropy so as to preserve the entropy of the encoded
3 portion of the signal.

1 6. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the entropy is
2 comprised of bits, and wherein each bit is coded so as to
3 preserve the entropy of the encoded portion of the signal.

1 7. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the entropy is
2 comprised of bits, and wherein each bit is coded by swapping a
3 spectral amplitude of at least two frequencies in the signal.

1 8. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the signal is coded
2 with the entropy using frequency hopping.

1 9. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the signal is coded
2 with the entropy using spectral modulation.

1 10. The encoder of claim 1 wherein the signal is coded
2 with the entropy using histograms.

1 11. A decoder having an input and an output, wherein
2 the input receives a signal, wherein the decoder decodes the
3 signal so as to read an entropy code from the signal, and wherein
4 the output carries a signal based upon the decoded entropy code.

1 12. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the signal is an
2 audio signal.

1 13. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the entropy code
2 represents an entropy having a value determined according to the
3 following equation:

4
$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

5 wherein p_i is determined as a number of samples in a bin i
6 divided by N , wherein N equals a total number of samples in all
7 bins, where the samples are placed in the bins according to their
8 values, and wherein the samples are generated from the signal.

1 14. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the entropy code
2 is decoded by amplitude demodulating pairs of frequencies.

1 15. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the entropy code
2 is decoded by determining swapping events, and wherein the
3 swapping events correspond to swapping of a spectral amplitude of
4 at least two frequencies in the signal.

1 16. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the entropy code
2 is decoded using frequency hopping.

1 17. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the entropy code
2 is decoded using spectral demodulation.

1 18. The decoder of claim 11 wherein the decoder
2 determines an entropy of the signal and compares the determined
3 entropy to an entropy represented by the decoded entropy code.

1 19. The decoder of claim 18 wherein the decoder
2 detects compression/decompression based upon results from the
3 comparison.

20. The decoder of claim 18 wherein the decoder prevents use of a device based upon results from the comparison.

21. The decoder of claim 18 wherein the decoder determines entropy according to the following equation:

$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

wherein the signal is sampled to produce a number N of samples, wherein the samples are placed in bins according to their values, and wherein p_i is determined as the number of samples in bin i divided by N .

22. A method of encoding a signal comprising the following steps:

a) calculating an entropy of at least a portion of the signal;

b) encoding the signal with the calculated entropy.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the signal is an audio signal.

1 27. The method of claim 22 wherein the calculated
2 entropy is comprised of bits, and wherein step b) comprises the
3 step of coding each of the bits so as to preserve the entropy of
4 the encoded portion of the signal.

1 28. The method of claim 22 wherein the calculated
2 entropy is comprised of bits, and wherein step b) comprises the
3 step of coding each of the bits by swapping a spectral amplitude
4 of at least two frequencies in the signal.

1 29. The method of claim 22 wherein step b) comprises
2 the step of coding the signal with the calculated entropy using
3 frequency hopping.

1 30. The method of claim 22 wherein step b) comprises
2 the step of coding the signal with the calculated entropy using
3 spectral modulation.

1 31. The method of claim 22 wherein step b) comprises
2 the step of coding the signal with the calculated entropy using
3 histograms.

1 32. A method of decoding a signal comprising the
2 following steps:

3 a) decoding the signal so as to read a calculated
4 entropy code from the signal; and,

5 b) providing an output based upon the decoded
6 calculated entropy.

1 33. The method of claim 32 wherein the signal is an
2 audio signal.

1 34. The method of claim 32 wherein the calculated
2 entropy has a value determined according to the following
3 equation:

4

$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

5 wherein p_i is determined as a number of samples in a bin i
6 divided by N , wherein N equals a total number of samples in all
7 bins, wherein the samples are placed in the bins according to
8 their values, and wherein the samples are generated from the
9 signal prior to decoding.

1 35. The method of claim 32 wherein step a) comprises
2 the step of decoding the calculated entropy code by amplitude
3 demodulating pairs of frequencies.

1 36. The method of claim 32 wherein step a) comprises
2 the step of decoding the calculated entropy code by determining
3 swapping events, and wherein the swapping events correspond to
4 swapping of a spectral amplitude of at least two frequencies in
5 the signal.

1 37. The method of claim 32 wherein step a) comprises
2 the step of decoding the calculated entropy code by using
3 frequency hopping.

1 38. The method of claim 32 wherein step a) comprises
2 the step of decoding the calculated entropy code by using
3 spectral demodulation.

1 39. The method of claim 32 comprising the further
2 steps of:

3 c) determining an entropy of the signal; and,
4 d) comparing the entropy determined in step c) to the
5 calculated entropy decoded in step a);

6 and wherein the output of step b) is based upon the
7 comparison performed in step d).

1 40. The method of claim 39 wherein the output prevents
2 playing of the signal based upon the comparison.

1 41. The method of claim 39 wherein step c) comprises
2 the following steps:

3 c1) sampling the signal so as to produce a number N of
4 samples;

5 c2) placing the samples in bins according to their
6 values; and,

7 c3) determining the entropy according to the following
8 equation:

9
$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

10 wherein p_i is determined as the number of samples in bin i
11 divided by N.

1 42. An electrical signal containing an entropy code
2 related to an entropy of the electrical signal.

1 43. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 electrical signal is an audio signal.

1 44. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy represented by the entropy code is determined according
3 to the following equation:

4
$$E = - \sum_{i=0}^{255} p_i \log p_i$$

5 wherein the electrical signal is sampled to produce a number N of
6 samples, wherein the samples are placed in bins according to
7 their values, and wherein p_i is determined as the number of
8 samples in bin i divided by N.

1 45. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is comprised of bits, and wherein each of the bits
3 corresponds to an amplitude modulation of a pair of frequencies
4 of the electrical signal.

1 46. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 electrical signal has the substantially same entropy with or
3 without the entropy code.

1 47. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is comprised of bits, and wherein the electrical
3 signal has the same entropy with or without the entropy code.

1 48. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is comprised of bits, and wherein each of the bits
3 corresponds to a spectral amplitude swapping of at least two
4 frequencies in the electrical signal.

1 49. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is derived from frequency hopping.

1 50. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is derived from spectral modulation.

1 51. The electrical signal of claim 42 wherein the
2 entropy code is derived from histograms.

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